SHORT ANSWER STUDY GUIDE QUESTIONS - *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Act I

1. What are Theseus and Hippolyta discussing at the play's start?

2. How does Hippolyta come to be betrothed to Theseus?

3. Why is Egeus disturbed?

4. What will be Hermia's fate if she refuses to marry Demetrius?

5. To what do Lysander and Hermia agree?

6. What hope does Helena have by telling Demetrius of Lysander and Hermia's flight?

7. Who are the characters in scene two, and what do they plan?

Act II

1. Why is Oberon angry with his queen?

2. On what mission does Oberon send Puck?

3. Upon overhearing Demetrius and Helena, what does Oberon command Puck to do?

4. Upon whose eyes does Puck apply the potion?

5. When he wakes up, who does Lysander see and love?

6. What is Helena's reaction to Lysander's words of love?

7. To where has Lysander disappeared when Hermia awakes?

Act III

1. Why does Bottom want a prologue written for the play?

2. What has Puck done to Bottom?

3. Identify the speaker: "Tie up my love's tongue, bring him silently."

4. What news does Puck bring Oberon?

5. Why does Oberon send Puck to fetch Helena?

6. What is Helena's situation at this point in the play?

7. What does Helena suppose of Hermia?

8. What does Hermia think Helena has done?

9. Why does Oberon send Puck to confuse the two young men?

10. What remedy corrects the crossed-loved couples?

Act IV

1. Why does Titania give Oberon the child?

2. How does Oberon find Titania and Bottom?

3. Why does Oberon remove the spell he has cast over his queen?

4. Finding the two couples asleep in the wood and learning of their more balanced love, what

order does Theseus give?

5. What news does Bottom bring his companions?

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Act V

1. Why do you think Shakespeare included a play within a play?

2. What do the fairies do after the palace goes to sleep?

3. Who does Puck address at the play's end?

4. What is the purpose of this last speech?